

During the second quarter of 2017, Labour Force Survey estimates indicate an increase of 2.5 per cent in employment when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2016.

## Labour Force Survey: Q2/2017

### Labour Status

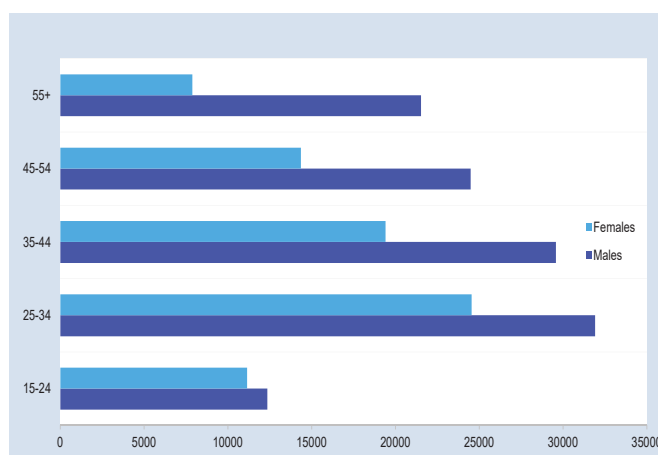
Labour Force Survey estimates indicate that, during the second quarter, total employment stood at 197,188 accounting to more than half the population aged 15 and over. Unemployed persons stood at 8,485 (2.3 per cent) while inactive persons totalled 163,869 (44.3 per cent) (Table 1). The activity rate for the quarter under review was estimated at 69.9 per cent with the highest rate recorded among persons aged 25-54 (83.3 per cent) (Table 2).

### The Employed Population

On average, out of every 100 persons aged between 15 to 64 years, 67 were employed. The male employment rate for this age bracket was 78.9 per cent while that for females stood at 54.4 per cent (Table 4).

Self-employed persons accounted for 14.0 per cent of all persons with a main job (Table 5). The majority worked on a full-time basis totalling 168,772 and 28,416 had a part-time job as their primary employment (Table 6). Results show that, on average, full-timers worked 41.6 hours while part-timers worked 22.7 hours per week (Table 7).

Employment by age groups and sex



The average annual basic salary of employees for the second quarter of 2017 was estimated at €18,064. The highest basic salary was recorded in the Financial and Insurance Service sector (Table 10). Average annual salaries varied from €29,232 among managers to €11,807 among persons employed in elementary occupations (Table 14).

### The Unemployed and Inactive Population

The unemployment rate for the second quarter of 2017, stood at 4.1 per cent (Table 17). Males made up 58.1 per cent of the unemployed population (Table 16). Among the unemployed, 57.0 per cent stated that they had been seeking work for less than 12 months (Table 18). The main reason for inactivity relates to persons reaching retirement age or taking up early retirement (40.3 per cent) (Table 20).

### Education Attainment

According to the Labour Force Survey 56.5 per cent of the 15 plus population have attained a low level of education (Table 21). This comprises persons with less than 5 ordinary level or equivalent qualifications. Among the employed population 26.0 per cent had a tertiary level education (Table 22) ■

**Table 1. Persons aged 15 and over by sex and labour status**

Labour status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2017					
Employed	119,854	64.5	77,334	42.1	197,188	53.4
Unemployed	4,929	2.7	3,556	1.9	8,485	2.3
Inactive	60,920	32.8	102,949	56.0	163,869	44.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>185,703</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>183,839</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>369,542</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	April-June 2016 (Revised)					
Employed	117,391	64.1	75,014	41.2	192,405	52.7
Unemployed	5,406	3.0	4,358	2.4	9,764	2.7
Inactive	60,283	32.9	102,719	56.4	163,002	44.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>183,080</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>182,091</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>365,171</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 2. Activity rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	April-June 2017					
15-24	53.6		51.3		52.5	
25-54	96.1		69.6		83.3	
55-64	64.0		24.3		44.2	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>82.2</b>		<b>56.9</b>		<b>69.9</b>	
	April-June 2016 (Revised)					
15-24	53.6		50.1		51.9	
25-54	96.2		68.5		82.8	
55-64	64.6		24.7		44.6	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>82.2</b>		<b>56.0</b>		<b>69.3</b>	

**Table 3. Distribution of employed persons with a main job by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2017					
15-24	12,359	10.3	11,143	14.4	23,502	11.9
25-34	31,917	26.6	24,549	31.7	56,466	28.6
35-44	29,573	24.7	19,404	25.1	48,977	24.8
45-54	24,483	20.4	14,358	18.6	38,841	19.7
55-64	18,533	15.5	7,095	9.2	25,628	13.0
65+	2,989	2.5	:	:	3,774	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>119,854</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>77,334</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>197,188</b>	<b>100.0</b>
April-June 2016 (Revised)						
15-24	13,052	11.1	11,033	14.7	24,085	12.5
25-34	31,013	26.4	24,435	32.6	55,448	28.8
35-44	28,928	24.6	18,316	24.4	47,244	24.6
45-54	23,504	20.0	13,327	17.8	36,831	19.1
55-64	18,506	15.8	7,180	9.6	25,686	13.3
65+	2,388 <sup>u</sup>	2.0 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	3,111	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,391</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>75,014</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>192,405</b>	<b>100.0</b>

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 4. Employment rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%		%		%	
	April-June 2017					
15-24	47.4		45.6		46.5	
25-54	92.9		67.2		80.5	
55-64	62.8		24.0		43.4	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>78.9</b>		<b>54.4</b>		<b>67.0</b>	
April-June 2016 (Revised)						
15-24	49.1		43.5		46.3	
25-54	92.2		65.5		79.2	
55-64	63.0		24.3		43.6	
<b>Total (15-64)</b>	<b>78.5</b>		<b>52.9</b>		<b>66.0</b>	

**Table 5. Distribution of employed persons by sex and professional status of main occupation**

Professional status	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2017					
Self-employed without employees	13,030	10.9	5,261	6.8	18,291	9.3
Self-employed with employees	8,035	6.7	:	:	9,409	4.7
Employee	98,614	82.3	70,489	91.1	169,103	85.8
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>119,854</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>77,334</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>197,188</b>	<b>100.0</b>
April-June 2016 (Revised)						
Self-employed without employees	13,861	11.8	3,239	4.3	17,100	8.9
Self-employed with employees	7,552	6.4	:	:	8,642	4.5
Employee	95,978	81.8	70,532	94.0	166,510	86.5
Unpaid family worker	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,391</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>75,014</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>192,405</b>	<b>100.0</b>

⋮ Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

**Table 6. Distribution of employed persons by sex and type of employment in main occupation**

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2017					
Full-time job	112,020	93.5	56,752	73.4	168,772	85.6
Part-time job	7,834	6.5	20,582	26.6	28,416	14.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>119,854</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>77,334</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>197,188</b>	<b>100.0</b>
April-June 2016 (Revised)						
Full-time job	108,682	92.6	54,694	72.9	163,376	84.9
Part-time job	8,709	7.4	20,320	27.1	29,029	15.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,391</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>75,014</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>192,405</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 7. Normal hours worked per week by sex and type of employment in main occupation**

Type of employment	Males		Females		Total	
	Average (Hours)					
	April-June 2017					
Full-time job	42.4		40.0		41.6	
Part-time job	21.8		23.0		22.7	
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.1</b>		<b>35.5</b>		<b>38.9</b>	
April-June 2016 (Revised)						
Full-time job	42.4		39.8		41.6	
Part-time job	22.2		22.3		22.3	
<b>Total</b>	<b>40.9</b>		<b>35.1</b>		<b>38.7</b>	

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

**Table 8. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: April-June 2017**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	2,303 <sup>u</sup>	1.9 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,515 <sup>u</sup>	1.3 <sup>u</sup>
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	19,141	16.0	7,147	9.2	26,288	13.3
Construction	11,290	9.4	:	:	11,649	5.9
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	34,213	28.5	20,825	26.9	55,038	27.9
Information and communication	5,302	4.4	1,324 <sup>u</sup>	1.7 <sup>u</sup>	6,626	3.4
Financial and insurance activities	5,241	4.4	5,118	6.6	10,359	5.3
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	2,174 <sup>u</sup>	1.1 <sup>u</sup>
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	10,390	8.7	7,193	9.3	17,583	8.9
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	24,163	20.2	28,877	37.3	53,040	26.9
Other services	6,597	5.5	5,319	6.9	11,916	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>119,854</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>77,334</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>197,188</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 9. Distribution of employed persons by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: April-June 2016 (Revised)**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,936 <sup>u</sup>	1.6 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,237 <sup>u</sup>	1.2 <sup>u</sup>
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	20,683	17.6	6,373	8.5	27,056	14.1
Construction	11,264	9.6	:	:	11,925	6.2
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	36,302	30.9	20,349	27.1	56,651	29.4
Information and communication	5,503	4.7	:	:	6,913	3.6
Financial and insurance activities	4,106	3.5	4,762	6.3	8,868	4.6
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	11,283	9.6	6,124	8.2	17,407	9.0
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	20,940	17.8	30,170	40.2	51,110	26.6
Other services	4,738	4.0	4,412	5.9	9,150	4.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,391</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>75,014</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>192,405</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 10. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: April-June 2017**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	15,747	18,136	6,813	13,414	22,560	16,710
Construction	7,683	15,801	:	:	7,967	15,877
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	26,333	17,476	18,220	12,827	44,553	15,575
Information and communication	4,835	21,253	:	:	6,093	20,890
Financial and insurance activities	4,827	27,785	5,118	21,973	9,945	24,794
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	1,601 <sup>u</sup>	22,476 <sup>u</sup>
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	8,593	19,845	6,434	16,017	15,027	18,206
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	23,780	20,197	28,250	17,780	52,030	18,885
Other services	5,185	23,886	3,377 <sup>u</sup>	15,653 <sup>u</sup>	8,562	20,639
<b>Total</b>	<b>98,614</b>	<b>19,449</b>	<b>70,489</b>	<b>16,127</b>	<b>169,103</b>	<b>18,064</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

**Table 11. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and economic activity of the main occupation: April-June 2016 (Revised)**

Economic activity	Males		Females		Total	
	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)	No. of employees	Average (€)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	:	:	:	:	:	:
Manufacturing, mining and quarrying and other industry	17,893	16,876	5,952	15,335	23,845	16,491
Construction	7,914	14,879	:	:	8,518	14,892
Wholesale and retail trade, transportation and storage, accommodation and food service activities	26,959	15,541	18,530	11,930	45,489	14,070
Information and communication	5,205	25,059	:	:	6,615	23,577
Financial and insurance activities	3,919	25,418	4,762	21,291	8,681	23,154
Real estate activities	:	:	:	:	:	:
Professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service activities	8,985	21,056	5,663	15,582	14,648	18,940
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	20,066	18,900	29,635	17,245	49,701	17,913
Other services	3,796	20,250	3,606	13,142	7,402	16,787
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,978</b>	<b>18,083</b>	<b>70,532</b>	<b>15,595</b>	<b>166,510</b>	<b>17,029</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

**Table 12. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: April-June 2017**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	1,588 <sup>u</sup>	1.3 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,588 <sup>u</sup>	0.8 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	12,893	10.8	5,882	7.6	18,775	9.5
Professionals	17,774	14.8	16,836	21.8	34,610	17.6
Technicians and associate professionals	18,639	15.6	11,120	14.4	29,759	15.1
Clerical support workers	8,311	6.9	10,832	14.0	19,143	9.7
Service and sales workers	18,451	15.4	22,860	29.6	41,311	21.0
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,019 <sup>u</sup>	1.7 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,231 <sup>u</sup>	1.1 <sup>u</sup>
Craft and related trades workers	17,811	14.9	:	:	18,768	9.5
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,917	8.3	3,312 <sup>u</sup>	4.3 <sup>u</sup>	13,229	6.7
Elementary occupations	12,451	10.4	5,323	6.9	17,774	9.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>119,854</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>77,334</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>197,188</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>z</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 13. Main occupation of total employed persons by sex: April-June 2016 (Revised)**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Armed Forces	1,893 <sup>u</sup>	1.6 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,950 <sup>u</sup>	1.0 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	12,628	10.8	5,550	7.4	18,178	9.4
Professionals	15,376	13.1	17,024	22.7	32,400	16.8
Technicians and associate professionals	17,853	15.2	8,754	11.7	26,607	13.8
Clerical support workers	8,974	7.6	11,438	15.2	20,412	10.6
Service and sales workers	19,266	16.4	23,085	30.8	42,351	22.0
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	2,005 <sup>u</sup>	1.7 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	2,213 <sup>u</sup>	1.2 <sup>u</sup>
Craft and related trades workers	17,567	15.0	:	:	18,871	9.8
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,970	8.5	2,420 <sup>u</sup>	3.2 <sup>u</sup>	12,390	6.4
Elementary occupations	11,859	10.1	5,174	6.9	17,033	8.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>117,391</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>75,014</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>192,405</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>z</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 14. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and main occupation: April-June 2017**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)
Armed Forces	1,588 <sup>u</sup>	16,357 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,588 <sup>u</sup>	16,357 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	9,866	31,215	5,561	25,714	15,427	29,232
Professionals	16,354	26,322	15,602	22,401	31,956	24,408
Technicians and associate professionals	16,269	19,780	10,193	18,481	26,462	19,280
Clerical support workers	8,261	16,172	10,766	13,437	19,027	14,625
Service and sales workers	13,389	15,020	19,267	11,066	32,656	12,687
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	12,544	16,840	:	:	13,300	16,633
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	8,687	15,434	3,170 <sup>u</sup>	12,652 <sup>u</sup>	11,857	14,690
Elementary occupations	11,175	12,987	5,174	9,259	16,349	11,807
<b>Total</b>	<b>98,614</b>	<b>19,449</b>	<b>70,489</b>	<b>16,127</b>	<b>169,103</b>	<b>18,064</b>

<sup>∴</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.

**Table 15. Average annual basic salary\* for employees by sex and main occupation: April-June 2016 (Revised)**

Occupational group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)	No.	Average (€)
Armed Forces	1,893 <sup>u</sup>	16,889 <sup>u</sup>	:	:	1,950 <sup>u</sup>	16,890 <sup>u</sup>
Managers	9,450	31,056	5,092	24,797	14,542	28,865
Professionals	13,451	25,303	16,485	20,986	29,936	22,926
Technicians and associate professionals	15,818	18,364	8,445	19,096	24,263	18,619
Clerical support workers	8,920	14,877	11,253	13,014	20,173	13,838
Service and sales workers	13,191	14,358	20,940	10,820	34,131	12,188
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers	:	:	:	:	:	:
Craft and related trades workers	12,103	14,510	:	:	13,115	14,423
Plant and machine operators, and assemblers	9,184	14,258	2,305 <sup>u</sup>	12,719 <sup>u</sup>	11,489	13,949
Elementary occupations	11,150	12,498	4,943	10,037	16,093	11,742
<b>Total</b>	<b>95,978</b>	<b>18,083</b>	<b>70,532</b>	<b>15,595</b>	<b>166,510</b>	<b>17,029</b>

<sup>∴</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations or the estimate is subject to a high sampling variability.

\* Amount given is prior to tax and social contribution deductions

Note: Refer to methodological note 3.



**Table 16. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2017					
15-24	1,620 <sup>u</sup>	32.9 <sup>u</sup>	1,382 <sup>u</sup>	38.9 <sup>u</sup>	3,002 <sup>u</sup>	35.4 <sup>u</sup>
25-74	3,309 <sup>u</sup>	67.1 <sup>u</sup>	2,174 <sup>u</sup>	61.1 <sup>u</sup>	5,483	64.6
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>4,929</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,556</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,485</b>	<b>100.0</b>
April-June 2016 (Revised)						
15-24	1,211 <sup>u</sup>	22.4 <sup>u</sup>	1,667 <sup>u</sup>	38.3 <sup>u</sup>	2,878 <sup>u</sup>	29.5 <sup>u</sup>
25-74	4,195	77.6	2,691 <sup>u</sup>	61.7 <sup>u</sup>	6,886	70.5
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>5,406</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,358</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,764</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 17. Unemployment rates by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	%					
	April-June 2017					
15-24	11.6 <sup>u</sup>		11.0 <sup>u</sup>		11.3 <sup>u</sup>	
25-74	3.0 <sup>u</sup>		3.2 <sup>u</sup>		3.1	
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>4.0</b>		<b>4.4</b>		<b>4.1</b>	
April-June 2016 (Revised)						
15-24	8.5 <sup>u</sup>		13.1 <sup>u</sup>		10.7 <sup>u</sup>	
25-74	3.9		4.0 <sup>u</sup>		3.9	
<b>Total (15-74)</b>	<b>4.4</b>		<b>5.5</b>		<b>4.8</b>	

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 18. Distribution of unemployed persons by sex and duration of job search**

Duration	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2017					
Less than 12 months	2,715 <sup>u</sup>	55.1 <sup>u</sup>	2,120 <sup>u</sup>	59.6 <sup>u</sup>	4,835	57.0
12 months or more	2,214 <sup>u</sup>	44.9 <sup>u</sup>	1,436 <sup>u</sup>	40.4 <sup>u</sup>	3,650	43.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,929</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>3,556</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,485</b>	<b>100.0</b>
April-June 2016 (Revised)						
Less than 12 months	2,894 <sup>u</sup>	53.5 <sup>u</sup>	2,787 <sup>u</sup>	64.0 <sup>u</sup>	5,681	58.2
12 months or more	2,512 <sup>u</sup>	46.5 <sup>u</sup>	1,571 <sup>u</sup>	36.0 <sup>u</sup>	4,083	41.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,406</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,358</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,764</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 19. Distribution of inactive persons by sex and age group**

Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2017					
15-24	12,097	19.9	11,889	11.5	23,986	14.6
25-34	:	:	5,659	5.5	6,849	4.2
35-44	:	:	9,368	9.1	10,264	6.3
45-54	1,527 <sup>u</sup>	2.5 <sup>u</sup>	11,367	11.0	12,894	7.9
55-64	10,626	17.4	22,360	21.7	32,986	20.1
65+	34,584	56.8	42,306	41.1	76,890	46.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,920</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>102,949</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>163,869</b>	<b>100.0</b>

April-June 2016 (Revised)						
Age group	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016 (Revised)					
15-24	12,344	20.5	12,665	12.3	25,009	15.3
25-34	:	:	5,728	5.6	6,293	3.9
35-44	:	:	9,525	9.3	10,441	6.4
45-54	1,929 <sup>u</sup>	3.2 <sup>u</sup>	11,665	11.4	13,594	8.3
55-64	10,389	17.2	22,235	21.6	32,624	20.0
65+	34,140	56.6	40,901	39.8	75,041	46.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,283</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>102,719</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>163,002</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

**Table 20. Main reasons for being inactive by sex**

Reason	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2017					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	26,572	25.8	27,486	16.8
Education or training	11,344	18.6	11,707	11.4	23,051	14.1
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	41,098	67.5	24,930	24.2	66,028	40.3
Other reasons	7,564	12.4	39,740	38.6	47,304	28.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,920</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>102,949</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>163,869</b>	<b>100.0</b>

April-June 2016 (Revised)						
Reason	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
	April-June 2016 (Revised)					
Personal or family responsibilities	:	:	24,843	24.2	25,600	15.7
Education or training	11,932	19.8	12,234	11.9	24,166	14.8
Reached retirement age, or uptake of early retirement	40,180	66.7	27,415	26.7	67,595	41.5
Other reasons	7,414	12.3	38,227	37.2	45,641	28.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>60,283</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>102,719</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>163,002</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

**Table 21. Persons aged 15 years and over by sex and highest educational attainment**

	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>April-June 2017</b>						
Low	102,474	55.2	106,191	57.8	208,665	56.5
Medium	52,758	28.4	46,710	25.4	99,468	26.9
High	30,471	16.4	30,938	16.8	61,409	16.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>185,703</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>183,839</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>369,542</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>April-June 2016 (Revised)</b>						
Low	106,364	58.1	105,932	58.2	212,296	58.1
Medium	48,571	26.5	45,855	25.2	94,426	25.9
High	28,145	15.4	30,304	16.6	58,449	16.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>183,080</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>182,091</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>365,171</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 22. Persons aged 15 years and over by labour status and highest educational attainment**

	Employed		Unemployed		Inactive		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<b>April-June 2017</b>								
Low	79,967	40.6	5,307	62.5	123,391	75.3	208,665	56.5
Medium	66,038	33.5	2,488 <sup>u</sup>	29.3 <sup>u</sup>	30,942	18.9	99,468	26.9
High	51,183	26.0	:	:	9,536	5.8	61,409	16.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>197,188</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8,485</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>163,869</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>369,542</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>April-June 2016 (Revised)</b>								
Low	84,570	44.0	6,367	65.2	121,359	74.5	212,296	58.1
Medium	60,657	31.5	2,539 <sup>u</sup>	26.0 <sup>u</sup>	31,230	19.2	94,426	25.9
High	47,178	24.5	:	:	10,413	6.4	58,449	16.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>192,405</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,764</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>163,002</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>365,171</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>‡</sup> Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

## Methodological Notes

1. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is carried out on an ongoing basis using a quarterly gross sample of 3,200 private households. The objective is to have a continuous assessment of labour market trends given that the reference weeks are evenly spread throughout the 13 weeks of the quarter. One-fourth of the sample is made up of households who have been selected to participate in the LFS for the first time. Three-fourths of the quarterly sample is made up of households who were selected to participate in the survey in previous instances, either one quarter before, or one year before, or one year and a quarter before (2-(2)-2). Unless otherwise indicated, figures provided in this release refer to persons aged 15 and over and living in private households during the reference period. All criteria used for this survey match international methodologies used by the International Labour Organisation (ILO).
2. The LFS is designed to satisfy the concepts and definitions as outlined by Eurostat, which is the EU Statistical Agency. This allows the comparability of results with other EU member states and countries following ILO definitions of employment and unemployment. Occupations are classified according to the ISCO - 08 classification (International Standard Classification of Occupations) whereas the economic activity is classified according to NACE Rev. 2 (Nomenclature générale des Activités économiques dans les Communautés Européennes). Education attainment is classified according to ISCED 2011.

### 3. Definitions:

- **Activity rate:** Labour force (15-64) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64).
- **Annual basic salary:** Refers to the annual basic salary received by employees before any social contributions and tax deductions. This amount excludes payments for overtime, allowances and bonuses.
- **Education Attainment:**
  - **low:** comprising persons with no schooling, primary education, special schools for disabled, and persons who attained a secondary level education and have less than 5 ordinary level qualifications or equivalent. In the context of the ISCED classification, low includes ISCED 0 to 2.
  - **medium:** comprising persons with a secondary level education and having 5 ordinary level qualifications or equivalent or more, persons with a post secondary level attainment who have at least obtained 1 intermediate or advanced level qualification or equivalent. In the context of the ISCED classification, medium refers to ISCED 3 and 4.
  - **high** - comprising persons with a tertiary level education and with qualifications ranging from diploma to doctorate level. In the context of the ISCED classification, high refers to ISCED 5 to 8.
- **Employees:** are defined as persons who work for a public or private employer and who receive compensation in the form of wages, salaries, fees, gratuities, payment by results or payment in kind.
- **Employed persons:** All persons aged 15 and over who, during the reference week, were in one of the following categories:
  - **paid employment:** includes those who during the reference week worked for at least one hour for a wage or salary, in cash or in kind.
  - **were employed but absent from work:** due to sick leave, bad weather, were undergoing training or education, did not work due to a labour dispute, were on maternity or parental leave, did not work due to slack work for technical or economic reasons, were absent from work for a period of less than 3 months, or were not working because on layoff and receiving at least 50 per cent of the salary/wage.
  - **self-employed:** covers persons who run a trade or business, rather than working as an employee for someone else. A person is self-employed if s/he is a sole proprietor or a partner working in a business.
  - **unpaid family workers:** refers to people who worked without pay in a family business or farm. Excluded from this definition are housewives.
- **Employment rate:** Persons in employment (15-64) as a percentage of the population of working age (15-64).
- **Inactive persons:** All persons who are not classified as employed or unemployed are defined as inactive.
- **Labour force:** All persons in employment and unemployed persons.

- **Normal hours worked:** Refers to the number of usual hours worked per week in the main job over a long reference period, excluding weeks when an absence from work occurs (e.g. holidays, vacation leave or sick leave).
- **Part time employment:** A part-time worker is an employed person whose normal hours are less than those of comparable full-time workers. Persons employed on a full-time with reduced hours basis are included in this category.
- **Reference week:** The week to which the collected data relate.
- **Unemployed persons:** All persons above 15 years of age who, during the reference week, satisfied the following criteria:
  - **without work**
  - **actively seeking work during the previous 4 weeks:** example of active job search include contacting Jobplus, applying directly with an employer, contacting a private employment agency, inserting or answering to an advert in a newspaper.
  - **currently available for work:** available to start work within 2 weeks of the reference week.
- **Unemployment rate:** Unemployed persons (15 to 74 years) as a percentage of the labour force (15-74 years).

#### 4. Sampling variability

Data included in this release are based on sample data and are therefore subject to sampling error. Sampling error is measured by a quantity known as the margin of error, which in turn, expresses the variability between the true population parameters and their corresponding sample estimates. In the table below, the margin of error is used to construct a set of 95 per cent confidence intervals for specific variables, which give an indication of where the true population parameters lie.

Sampling variability of LFS figures

	Estimate	Margin of error	95% confidence interval
Employment	197,188	4,001	197,188 ± 4001
Employment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	66.95	1.35	66.95 ± 1.35
<i>Males</i>	78.89	1.40	78.89 ± 1.40
<i>Females</i>	54.39	1.64	54.39 ± 1.64
15-24	46.54	3.55	46.54 ± 3.55
25-54	80.47	1.67	80.47 ± 1.67
55-64	43.38	2.96	43.38 ± 2.96
Unemployment	8,485	1,626	8,485 ± 1,626
Unemployment rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	4.13	0.79	4.13 ± 0.79
<i>Males</i>	3.96	0.97	3.96 ± 0.97
<i>Females</i>	4.40	1.32	4.40 ± 1.32
15-24	11.33	3.67	11.33 ± 3.67
25+	3.07	0.74	3.07 ± 0.74
Inactivity	163,869	3,844	163,869 ± 3,844
Activity rate (%)			
<i>Total</i>	69.89	1.30	69.89 ± 1.30
<i>Males</i>	82.22	1.31	82.22 ± 1.31
<i>Females</i>	56.91	1.62	56.91 ± 1.62
15-24	52.49	3.57	52.49 ± 3.57
25-54	83.27	1.54	83.27 ± 1.54
55-64	44.16	2.94	44.16 ± 2.94

Note: Prior to 2017, the margin of error was calculated using the Bootstrap method. From Quarter 1 2017 the Ultimate Cluster Method was used for the margin of error calculations. This method is in line with current Eurostat's recommendations for best practice.

The table above provides estimated measures of sampling variability. For example, with respect to employment the LFS estimate is 197,188 and the margin of error is 4,001. Hence, the actual figure in the population lies between 193,187 and 201,189 persons.

Data from Q2 2016 onwards have been revised to align LFS estimates with demographic updates.

#### Key

: Unreliable - less than 20 sample observations.

<sup>u</sup> Under represented - between 20 and 49 sample observations.

5. Percentage totals may not add up due to rounding.
6. Absolute changes between one survey estimate and another must be treated with caution since minor changes (i.e. less than 1,800 persons) might be the result of sampling error.
7. More information is available from the NSO upon written request.
8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:  
Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>  
Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=33>  
Classification: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE Rev. 2>  
<http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCO 2008>  
<http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=ISCED%202011>
9. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.
10. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at [www.nso.gov.mt](http://www.nso.gov.mt)